

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This progress report for the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Departments (SBMWD) operation and maintenance (O&M) of the Newmark Operable Unit (OU) Interim Remedial Actions (IRAs) covers the reporting period between March 23, 2005 and April 30 2005. The Newmark OU IRA is being operated to address identified groundwater impacts within the Newmark OU that are part of the Newmark Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site. The IRA system consists of groundwater extraction, granular activated carbon treatment and delivery of potable water to the SBMWD water distribution system.

This progress report has been prepared following the requirements stipulated in the Consent Decree (CD) between the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and SBMWD, dated March 23, 2005. The requirements of this report are primarily established in the Statement of Work (SOW), which is an attachment to the CD.

1.1 Project Background

In 1980, the State of California Department of Health Services discovered and investigated dissolved-phase chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) contaminants in several municipal water-supply wells within the northern San Bernardino/Muscoy region. Following this discovery, several investigations were conducted to identify potential source(s) of the VOC contamination. On March 30, 1989, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed this region on the National Priorities List, releasing federal funds to investigate and clean up the area, now identified as the Newmark Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site (Site).

The EPA initiated the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) process for the Site in 1990. Initial investigations indicated that the Site contained two groundwater contamination plumes. The two plumes were believed to have separate sources and were therefore separated into two OUs, the Newmark OU and the Muscoy OU, to more effectively focus the search for potential contamination source(s). Further investigation has indicated that both plumes emanate from an area northwest of the Shandin Hills, suggesting that contaminants contributing to the Newmark and Muscoy plumes may have originated from the same source. The Source OU was developed in 1993 as a means to more efficiently investigate the suspected source of both plumes.

The Source OU/Newmark OU plume is a dissolved phase VOC plume that is approximately 8 miles long from the northwest side of the Source OU to the southern extent at the Newmark Plume Front extraction well network. The Source OU/Newmark OU plume trends to the southeast from the Source OU, along the north side of the Shandin Hills, and turns to the south beyond the eastern surficial extent of the Shandin Hills. Dissolved-phase VOC contamination within the Newmark OU has caused the closure of a number of San Bernardino municipal wells, and continues to threaten downgradient wells that supply water for approximately 500,000 people. The Source OU/Muscoy OU plume is a similar dissolved-phase VOC plume, which extends approximately 6-miles from the northwest portion of the Source OU, toward the southeast passing the west side of the Shandin Hills, and appears to extend at least to 9th Street in

the City of San Bernardino. VOC contamination within the Muscoy OU has also impacted several municipal water-supply wells. The primary contaminants of concern for both plumes are perchloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE).

Based on the findings presented in the RI/FS, the SBMWD, in conjunction with the EPA, has commenced operations of 13 extraction wells to inhibit further migration of VOC contamination in the Newmark OU and Muscoy OU. The Newmark OU IRA commenced operations in 1998 and was declared operational and functional (O&F) by the EPA by October 1, 2000. The Muscoy OU IRA commenced preliminary operations in March 2005 as part of facilities shakedown, and will undergo formal startup testing in June 2005. The Muscoy OU IRA is anticipated to be declared O&F by the summer of 2006.

During the operation of the Newmark OU and Muscoy OU IRAs, SBMWD is required to prepare regular progress reports to document O&M activities and compliance with the terms of the CD and SOW. Until such time that the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F, the monthly progress report will be limited to reporting Newmark OU IRA O&M activities. When the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F, Muscoy OU IRA O&M activities will be added to the progress report.

1.2 Facilities Description

This section provides a brief description of the facilities operated by SBMWD under the CD and SOW and for which data are to be reported in these progress report. The locations of the subject facilities are shown in Figure 1-1.

1.2.1 Newmark OU Facilities

Newmark OU extraction systems consist of eight extraction wells split into two separate extraction well networks. The Newmark North extraction well network consists of two EPA-installed extraction wells (EW-6 and EW-7) and one existing SBMWD production well (Newmark No. 3). The extraction well network is located in the northwestern portion of the Newmark OU plume to inhibit further downgradient migration of contaminated groundwater along the north side of the Shandin Hills through a narrow gap between bedrock outcroppings and the San Andreas Fault. Extracted groundwater is treated using seven pairs of 20,000 pound granular activated carbon (GAC) vessels referred to as the Newmark North Treatment Plant. The Newmark North facilities also include five monitoring well clusters (MW-4A/B, MW-7A/B, MW9A/B, MW-16A/B and MW-17A/B) that will be used to monitor water levels and VOCs for evaluating the effectiveness of the Newmark North extraction well network.

The remaining five Newmark OU extraction wells, referred to as the Newmark Plume Front extraction well network (EW-1, EW-2, EW-3, EW-4, and EW-5), are located along the leading edge of the Newmark plume to protect uncontaminated portions of the aquifer (Figure 1-1). Extracted water from EW-2, EW-4 and EW-5 is being treated using eight pairs of 20,000 pound granular GAC vessels located at the Waterman Treatment Plant. Extracted water from EW-3 is being treated using three pairs of 20,000 pound GAC vessels located at the Waterman Treatment Plant. Extracted water from EW-1, which was initially treated at the Waterman Treatment Plant,

is now being treated at the 19th Treatment Plant. The Newmark Plume Front facilities also include six monitoring well clusters (MW-10A/B, MW-11A/B/C, MW12A/B, MW-13A/B/C, MW-14A/B and MW-15A/B) that will be used to monitor water levels and VOCs for evaluating the effectiveness of the Newmark Plume Front extraction well network.

1.2.2 Muscoy OU Facilities

An extraction system consisting of five additional extraction wells (EW-108, EW-109, EW-110, EW-111, and EW-112 referred to as the Muscoy Plume extraction well network) has been installed in the downgradient area of the Muscoy OU Plume, and began preliminary operations in April 2005. The Muscoy Plume extraction well network is located upgradient of the leading edge of dissolved VOCs in groundwater to inhibit further migration of VOCs to the south. Extracted water from the five Muscoy OU extraction wells, along with water extracted from EW-1, is being treated using 12 pairs of 30,000 pound granular GAC vessels located at the 19th Street Treatment Plant. The Muscoy Plume facilities also include eight monitoring well clusters (MW-128A/B/C, MW-129A/B/C, MW130A/B/C, MW-135A/B/C, MW-136A/B/C, MW-137A/B/C MW-138A/B/C and MW-139A/B/C) that will be used to monitor water levels and VOCs for evaluating the effectiveness of the Muscoy Plume extraction well network. Formal startup testing of the Muscoy Plume extraction well network is underway. The Muscoy Plume extraction well network is anticipated to be declared O&F during the summer of 2006. At such time SBMWD will assume responsibility for O&M under the terms of the CD and SOW.

1.2.3 Site Wide-Facilities

Site-Wide monitoring facilities are included as part of IRA operations to provide additional Site-Wide ground water level monitoring and sampling facilities. The Site-Wide monitoring facilities are used to aid in evaluating the combined effectiveness of the Newmark and Muscoy OUs extraction networks, to provide Site-Wide background ground water elevations, and to evaluate Site-Wide contamination. The 23 Site-Wide monitoring well locations shown on Figure 1-1.

1.3 Progress Report Format

This progress report is intended to be used as the instrument for reporting all O&M data required per the terms of the CD and SOW. Until such time as the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F, the progress reporting requirements are limited to reporting data for the operation of the Newmark OU facilities. Once the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F, the City will begin to report Muscoy OU facility operations in subsequent progress reports.

The report is structured in a modular format to report each type of O&M data in separate sections. Section 2.0 will provide the required extraction well operations data. Section 3.0 will provide the required treatment plant operations data. Section 4.0 will provide the required water level monitoring data. Section 5.0 will provide the results of monitoring well sampling. Section 6.0 will provide the schedule for upcoming monitoring and maintenance events. Section 7.0 presents a summary of community relations activities.

The reporting requirements for the main data types are as follows:

Extraction well and plant flows - monthly
Water levels – quarterly
Monitoring well sampling – semi-annually (following data validation)

Since reporting of water level data will be limited to four times per year, and reporting of monitoring well sampling will be limited to two times per year, Progress Report Sections 4.0 and 5.0 will often not include data. During these times a brief narrative of the upcoming reporting schedule will be provided and the section numbering structure will be preserved.

The structure of the progress report emphasizes presentation of the required information and data in a tabular format with minimal supporting text. This approach will help to expedite report preparation and agency review. The introduction section is somewhat lengthy to provide ample background information. The text in the remaining sections is brief.

Since this is the first progress report under the Consent Decree, the format of the report is considered draft and is subject to revision by SBMWD as well as EPA and DTSC. In particular, the tables that present data will likely undergo significant revisions to utilize table templates available within the EQuIS database structure that SBMWD will be using for data management and reporting. At the time of this report, the database systems are still under construction, and therefore were not available during the preparation of this report.

1.4 Interim Reporting Approach

During the initial months of CD/SOW implementation, some of the documents that dictate data analysis and reporting requirement will not have been submitted to the Lead Oversight Agency and Support Oversight Agency for approval. In specific, the process for evaluating and accepting laboratory analytical data will be established in the Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) Plan. The process for evaluating water level data will be established in the Operations Sampling and Analysis Plan (OSAP) due to be submitted by October 11, 2005. During the interim period until these plans are approved by the Lead Oversight Agency and Support Oversight Agency, SBMWD will adopt the following approach:

Report extraction well and treatment system sampling data following QA/QC procedures currently adopted by the SBMWD for reporting to the California Department of Health Services (DHS) per their DHS permit requirements.

Report water level data for Newmark OU extraction wells and monitoring wells, and site wide monitoring wells in the form of hydrographs as proposed by SBMWD in correspondence dated April 4, 2005, and agreed to by the EPA in correspondence dated April 6, 2005.

As indicated in the CD/SOW, during the interim period until the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F, the City will not be responsible for reporting extraction well flow data, treatment system data, water level monitoring data or monitoring well sampling data for the Muscoy OU facilities in the Progress Reports. These data will be provided to the EPA's contractor separate from the Progress Report in an agreed upon format to facilitate the EPA's evaluation of the Muscoy OU

facilities prior to being declared O&F. The EPA has requested the City to include some Muscoy OU monitoring data in the monthly progress reports to create a comprehensive data record in the progress reports. To accommodate this request, the City will append these data to the subsequent progress report from their receipt in the format in which the data are provided, consistent with the approach documented in SBMWD correspondence dated April 4, 2005. Once the Muscoy OU facilities are declared O&F, the City will begin to analysis and report Muscoy OU IRA operations data in subsequent Progress Reports.

2.0 EXTRACTION WELL OPERATIONS

Extraction well operations of Newmark OU extraction wells during the reporting period are summarized in a series of tables. A description of routine maintenance performed, problems encountered, process improvements implemented and deviations from the operational requirements of the Consent Decree is provided in Table 2-1 for the Newmark North and Newmark Plume Front extraction well networks. A summary of extraction well flow data and well run times for the reporting period are provided in Table 2-2. A summary of analytical results for groundwater samples collected from the extraction well sampling ports during the reporting period are provided Table 2-3.

Until the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F by the EPA, SBMWD is not required to demonstrate compliance with the extraction rate criteria stipulated in the SOW. Once the Muscoy OU IRA is declared O&F, a calculation of the three month rolling average will be added to Table 2-2 with a comparison to extraction rate requirements.

3.0 TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS

Treatment plant operations for Newmark OU treatment plants for the reporting period are summarized in a series of tables. A description of routine maintenance performed, problems encountered, process improvements implemented and deviations from the operational requirements of the Consent Decree is provided in Table 3-1 for the Newmark North and 17th Street and Waterman treatment plants. A summary of treatment plant flow data and mass removal estimates reporting period are provided in Table 3-2. Cumulative mass removal estimates are also provided in Table 3-2. A summary of analytical results for water samples collected from the treatment plants during the reporting period are provided Table 3-3. Samples included in Table 3-3 are treatment plant influent samples, lead vessel effluent samples and combined lag vessel effluent samples.

4.0 WATER LEVEL MONITORING

Water level monitoring results for the second quarter 2005 (March 23 to June 30) will be reported in the June 2005 progress report. A description of routine maintenance performed, problems encountered, process improvements implemented and deviations from the operational requirements of the Consent Decree during the reporting are provided in Table 4-1 the wells included in the water level monitoring program. A detailed report summarizing the status of water level monitoring equipment will be provided in the June 2005 progress report with second quarter 2005 water level data.

5.0 MONITORING WELL SAMPLING

The first monitoring well sampling event is scheduled to be completed in November 2005. This event will be a semi-annual monitoring event limited to sampling of the wells identified in Section III.D.1 of the SOW. Analytical data from this monitoring event will likely be reported in the January 2006 progress report.

6.0 REMAINING REQUIRED INFORMATION

This section presents the remaining information for the reporting period that is required to be submitted in progress reports per the CD and SOW. The required information includes identification of deliverables submitted during the reporting period, a schedule of upcoming O&M and monitoring events, and a summary of community relations activities.

6.1 Upcoming O&M and Monitoring Events

A schedule of upcoming O&M and monitoring events is provided in Table 6-1. The table is broken into several components including extraction well monitoring and maintenance, treatment system monitoring and maintenance, monitoring well monitoring and maintenance, project documents, and community relations.

6.2 Deliverables Submitted During The Monitoring Period

Table 6.2 provides a list of deliverables submitted during the reporting period.

6.3 Community Relations Activities

This section reports community relations activities performed during the reporting period and lists anticipated community relations activities to occur within the next six weeks.

6.3.1 Activities Conducted During the Reporting Period

The Muscoy OU construction dedication ceremony was held on March 24, 2005. The dedication ceremony marked the completion of the Muscoy OU construction and the beginning of groundwater treatment. Invited guests included representatives from state and local government as well as members of the community.

6.3.2 Activities to Be Conducted Over the Following Six Weeks

Community relations activities planned for the next six weeks are listed in Table 6-1